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Application Number 10/521531

Response to the Office Action dated March 30, 2009

**Amendments to the claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for deuteration of an aromatic ring ~~whose ring atoms consist of carbon atoms and which may have at least one substituent, which comprises~~comprising:

reacting the aromatic ring under a neutral condition with a deuterated solvent other than deuterium peroxide (D<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) heavy hydrogen source in the presence of at least one activated catalyst selected from a platinum catalyst, a rhodium catalyst, a ruthenium catalyst, a nickel catalyst and a cobalt catalyst,

wherein the aromatic ring may have at least one substituent and is at least one selected from the group consisting of benzene, naphthalene, anthracene, phenanthrene, 9,10-dihydroanthracene, naphthacene, pentaphene, pentacene, hexaphene, hexacene, heptaphene, heptacene, trinaphthylene, 1,4-dihydronaphthalene, pyrene, triphenylene, biphenylene, indene, indan, indacene, phenalene, fluorene, acenaphthene, acenaphthylene, fluoranthene, tetraphenylene, coranthrene, acephenanthrylene, aceanthrylene, cyclopentaphenanthrene, chrysene, picene, pleiadene, rubicene, pyranthrene, coronene, perylene, rubrene, dibenzophenanthrene, 1,2-dibenzo-1,3-cycloheptadiene and ovalene, and

the at least one activated catalyst is activated with hydrogen gas or heavy hydrogen gas.

2. (Original) The method for deuteration according to claim 1, wherein the catalyst is an activated platinum catalyst.

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3. (Original) The method for deuteration according to claim 2, wherein the platinum catalyst is one comprising platinum of 0 to 2 valences.

4. (Original) The method for deuteration according to claim 2, wherein the platinum catalyst is platinum carbon.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method for deuteration according to claim 1, wherein the at least one substituent of the aromatic ring ~~whose ring atoms consist of carbon atoms and which may have at least one substituent~~ is selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a mercapto group, an oxo group, a thioxo group, a carboxyl group, a sulfo group, a sulfinio group, a sulfeno group, a phosphino group, a phosphinoyl group, a formyl group, an amino group, a cyano group and a nitro group.

8. (Currently Amended) The method for deuteration according to claim 1, wherein the at least one substituent of the aromatic ring ~~whose ring atoms consist of carbon atoms and which may have at least one substituent~~ is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, an alkoxy group, an aryloxy group, an alkylthio group, an arylthio group, an alkylsulfonyl group, an arylsulfonyl group, an alkylsulfinyl group, an arylsulfinyl group, an alkylphosphino group, an arylphosphino group, an alkylphosphinoyl group, an arylphosphinoyl group, an alkylamino group, an arylamino group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, an aryloxycarbonyl group, an alkoxysulfonyl group, an aryloxysulfonyl group, an acyl group and an acyloxy group, which may further have at least one substituent.

9. (Currently Amended) The method for deuteration according to claim 8, wherein the at least one substituent ~~of the at least one substituent~~ of the aromatic ring ~~whose ring~~

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~~atoms consist of carbon atoms and which may have at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, an alkoxy group, an aryloxy group, an alkylthio group, an arylthio group, an alkylsulfonyl group, an arylsulfonyl group, an alkylsulfinyl group, an arylsulfinyl group, an alkylphosphino group, an arylphosphino group, an alkylphosphineoyl group, an arylphosphineoyl group, an alkylamino group, an arylamino group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, an aryloxcarbonyl group, an alkoxysulfonyl group, an aryloxysulfonyl group, an acyl group and an acyloxy group, which may further have has at least one substituent[[,]]~~ is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group, an aryl group, a hydroxy group, an alkoxy group, an amino group, an alkylamino group, a mercapto group, an alkylthio group, an formyl group, an acyl group, a carboxyl group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, a carbamoyl group and an alkylcarbamoyl group.

10. (Previously Presented) The method for deuteration according to claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out at 180 °C or lower.

11. (New) The method for deuteration according to claim 1, wherein the deuterated solvent is at least one selected from the group consisting of deuterium oxide, deuterated alcohols, deuterated carboxylic acids, deuterated ketones, deuterated dimethylsulfoxide, and tritium oxide.